

Today is _____, _____ the _____. This is Ken Morgan's Northcoast Ag Report, our lead story is about _____ when we return

U.S.-China talks in Florida last week yielded a more cooperative tone between the two nations' leaders, raising chances of even more U.S. farm sales in China. At least that's the hope by America's largest farm group. The lack of vitriol and threats, as well as a planned reopening of China's beef market to the U,S,, and a softer U,S, tone on currency manipulation by China for now, have raised AFB's hopes for more U.S. ag sales in one of America's top ag export markets. American Farm Bureau Trade Adviser Dave Salmonsens...tape

Cut 1 :11 OC..."export market"

China and Canada have alternated in recent years as the top two U.S. ag export markets. Europe has declined in importance as China, Canada, Mexico, Asia, and the rest of the Americas have risen. U.S. farm exports to upper middle-income countries like China and Mexico surpassed those to high-income countries in 2011. Salmonsens points to China's huge population as a key reason for optimism...tape

Cut 2 :16 OC..."trade deficit"

Salmonsens is also encouraged that President Trump and China's President Xi (Zshee) agreed to come up with a 'hundred-day plan' to reduce the U.S.-China trade imbalance.

Immigration Raids Could Send Milk Prices Soaring

Continued immigration raids on American dairy farms could send milk prices soaring. Jaime Castaneda, Senior Vice President of Strategic Initiatives and Trade Policy for the National Milk Producers Federation, says the price of a gallon of milk could possibly approach

\$8. The Hagstrom Report says Castaneda was part of a panel on immigration at the Consumer Federation of America's National Food Policy Conference. He estimates 80 percent of the nation's milk supply comes from dairy farms that employ foreign labor, saying if there's a continued effort to remove workers, there will be a significant shortage of milk and higher prices. He says the nation's dairy producers have high expectations that Congress could resolve the farm worker immigration problems. However, he says, "We see what happened with the health insurance fiasco, with the probability of having something pass diminished." The United Fresh Produce Association notes there is a proposal to move the worker program from the Labor Department to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Robert Guenther, Senior Vice President for Public Policy, asked the panel, "Is there a will to move the farm worker program to the USDA?"